

NOTICE TO COUNSEL AND PARTIES
IN ALL ATLANTA CASES
ASSIGNED TO THE HONORABLE HAROLD L. MURPHY

The United States District Court for the Northern District of Georgia presently has four vacancies in its Atlanta Division, which means that six (6) active judges in that division are handling a caseload intended for ten (10) active judges. Three of these vacancies have existed since January 2009, and a fourth vacancy arose in February 2010.


The Honorable Harold L. Murphy, an active judge of this court who presides over cases arising in the court's Rome Division, has offered his assistance in the adjudication of cases arising in the Atlanta Division during the time that the court is operating without its full complement of judges.

Accordingly, Judge Murphy will be placed on the Atlanta civil case wheel for assignment of certain designated types of cases. The assignment of Atlanta Division cases to Judge Murphy should allow for more expeditious handling of those cases. All court proceedings in any such case, including a trial, will be conducted at the federal courthouse in the Rome Division, however.

Should a party not agree to adjudication in the Rome Division of any Atlanta case assigned to Judge Murphy, that party must file a notice indicating its refusal to consent. For a plaintiff, that notification must be filed within fourteen (14) days of the plaintiff's filing of a complaint in this court or, for a case removed to federal court, within fourteen (14) days of the removal of same. For a defendant, that notification must be filed within fourteen (14) days of service of process for a complaint filed in this court or, for a case removed to federal court, within fourteen (14) days of the date of removal. When serving process, the plaintiff must include a copy of this notice.

A failure to submit the above notice within the above deadline will constitute a waiver of any objection to the adjudication of the case in the Rome Division. Upon the timely submission of the above notice by a party, the Clerk will reassign the case to an Atlanta Division judge, according to the court's case assignment procedures.

SO ORDERED this 24 day of May, 2010.


Julie E. Carnes
Chief Judge
United States District Court